

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
9 June 2005 (09.06.2005)

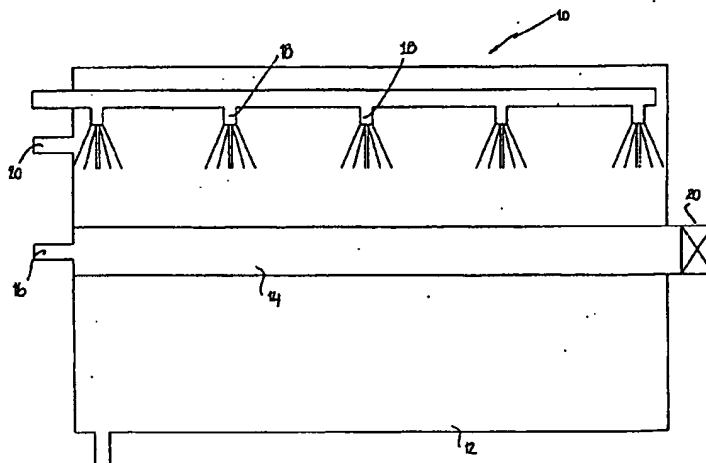
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/052473 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: F25C 3/04 (74) Agent: FREEHILLS PATENT & TRADE MARK ATTORNEYS; 101 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000 (AU).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/AU2004/001647 (81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (22) International Filing Date: 25 November 2004 (25.11.2004) (84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 2003906634 28 November 2003 (28.11.2003) AU
- (71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): SNOW FACTORIES PTY LTD [AU/AU]; Unit 3A, 17 Sugarmill Road, Eagle Farm, Queensland 4009 (AU).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): BUCCERI, Alfio [AU/AU]; 33 Racecourse Road, Ascot, Queensland 4007 (AU). HOOK, Peter [AU/AE]; c/- MKM Commercial Holdings LLC, PO Box 6850, Dubai (AE).
- Published:
— with international search report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SNOW MAKING METHOD AND APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: An apparatus (10) for making snow or a snow-like substance includes a container (12) having a cooling space (13) adapted to contain pressurized air or gas of above atmospheric pressure. At least one flexible walled vessel (14) extends through the cooling space (13) and is connectable to a water source. The apparatus (10) is operable to maintain the cooling space at a sufficiently low temperature to at least partially freeze the water within the flexible walled vessel (14). As a preferred feature of the snow making apparatus, the apparatus may be adapted to maintain a static pressure within the cooling space of the container (12) and to periodically and temporarily increase the pressure within the cooling space to compress the flexible walled vessel (14). Invention also resides in an apparatus (10) for making snow or a snow-like substance, the apparatus including at least one flexible walled vessel (14) connectable to a water source. Spray equipment (18) sprays heat transfer medium onto the at least one flexible walled vessel (14) to chill the vessel sufficient to form ice crystals and/or snow within the vessel.

WO 2005/052473 A1



For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.